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The Army's EO Program and Policies



Lesson 25: Role of the EO Advisor and EO Representative

Overview

- Define the Army's Policy on extremism.
- Explain the Restrictions on Participation in Extremist Organizations.
- Describe the Definitions of Terms Related to Extremism.
- Explain the Prohibitions with Regard to Extremism.
- Explain the Training Responsibilities of the Commander with regard to Extremist Organizations and Activities.



Introduction

- The United States Army is comprised of soldiers and civilians from various cultures, ethnic groups, religions and races from around the world.
- These various groups contain ideologies that range from extremely tolerant to radical, to ultra militant.
- It is the policy of the Army that participation in extremist activities or organizations is inconsistent with the responsibilities of military services.



Introduction

- As leaders, we must be aware there may always be some individuals who still adhere and believe in racial or ethnic superiority or inferiority.
- By learning more about the ideologies, history and dynamics of supremacist extremist groups, you will have a better understanding of the influences that can affect your soldiers, how their beliefs or actions can affect those of their peers.
- Understanding these issues will prepare you to better handle the problems you may find facing you.



Army's Policy On Extremist Organizations

- Impact on the Unit and the Mission
- Policy
- Prohibitions



Impact on the Unit and the Mission

- When individuals in the armed services are supportive of an extremist organization there is an immediate impact on the unit.
- Even as the mission continues and work is accomplished, the overall command climate changes as it adjusts to the new element.
- In a lot of instances, even individuals who oppose or disagree will not confront the extreme views of another.
- They either do not feel directly affected by it or they may fear
they may damage the unit's working environment.



Impact on the Unit and the Mission

- Command climate suffers
- Polarization of groups
- Undermines confidence among unit members
- Productivity is hampered and mission accomplishment can be seriously affected.
- Unnecessary efforts are required to recover from a neglected situation and time is lost.



Policy

- It is the policy of the U.S. Army to provide equal opportunity and treatment for all soldiers without regard to race, color, religion, gender, or national origin.
- Based on this philosophy, participation in extremist organizations or activities is inconsistent with the responsibilities of military service.
- Military personnel must reject participation in extremist organizations and activities.



Policy

- Extremist organizations and activities are one that advocate racial, gender, or ethnic hatred or intolerance
- Advocate, create, or engage in illegal discrimination based on race, color, gender, religion, or national origin
- Advocate the use of force or violence, or unlawful means to deprive individuals of their rights under the United States Constitution or the laws of the United States or any State
- Advocate or seek to overthrow the Government of the United States, or any States by unlawful means.



Prohibitions

- Soldiers are prohibited from the following actions in support of Extremist organizations or activities.
- Penalties for violations of these prohibition include the full range of statutory and regulatory sanctions, both criminal (UCMJ) and administrative.
- Participating in a public demonstration or rally
- Attending a meeting or activity with knowledge that the meeting or activity involves an extremist cause when on duty, when in uniform, when in a foreign country



Prohibitions

- On or off duty or in uniform, when it constitutes a breach of law and order, when violence is likely to result, or when in violation of off-limits sanctions or a commander's order;
- Fund raising activities
- Recruiting or training members (including encouraging other soldiers to join)



Prohibitions

- Creating, organizing, or taking a visible leadership role in such an organization or activity;
- Distributing literature on or off a military installation with the primary purpose and content of which concerns advocacy or support of extremist causes
- Organizations, or activities and it appears the literature presents a clear danger to the loyalty, discipline, or morale of military personnel, or if the distribution would materially interfere with the accomplishment of a military mission.



Terms and Definitions

- Supremacist
- Extremist
- Extremist Organizations
- Ideology
- Militia
- Gangs



Supremacist and Extremist

- **Supremacist** - Any person(s) maintaining the ideology, quality, state of being, or position of being superior to all others in something
- **Extremist** - A person who advocates the use of force or violence; advocates supremacist causes based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, or national origin; or otherwise engages to deprive individuals or groups or their civil rights.



Extremist Organizations and Ideology

- Extremist Organizations - A group which advocates the use of force or violence, advocates supremacist causes; based on ethnicity, religion, gender, or national origin; or otherwise engages in efforts to deprive individuals or groups of their civil rights.
- Ideology - A systematic body of concepts especially about human life or culture; a way of thinking used by a group or individual to express their beliefs and social values.



Militia and Gangs

- Militia - A body of soldiers not permanently organized in time of peace. Many militia organizations have been formed because of their objection to national or local government (anti-democratic) policies or programs.
- Gangs - A group of individuals who band together, usually along racial or ethnic lines. Generally, gangs are prone to violent behavior.



Recruitment and Affiliation

- Instead of standing in streets dressed in sheets and shouting hate messages; most extremists are now sitting in bars and break areas, wearing street
- Recognizable hate symbols and paraphernalia are usually hidden until a recruit is hooked on the validity of the ideology.
- Some groups raise young adults in their ideology and then they enter the military to gain expertise and knowledge



Extremist Groups and Organizations

The majority of extremist groups and organizations have one predominant theme of superiority of one race over the other

- Identity (Creationism)
- White Supremacy Ideology
- Patriotism-Survival Ideology



Identity (Creationism)

- Followers of this ideology tend to believe the Jews are the descendants of Satan, and white Anglo-Saxons are the true Israelites, “God’s chosen people,” and the sons of Adam and the descendants of the Lost Tribes of Israel.
- Ku Klux Klan.
- Neo-Nazi.
- Aryan Nation.
- Identity Movement Churches.
- New Jerusalem Fellowship.
- Church of Jesus Christ Christian.
- Church of the Creator.



White Supremacy Ideology

The Christian Conservative “Identity” explanation of the diverse races of mankind is grounded in Biblical interpretation

- Separatists (Nationalist).
- Third Position (Aryan Socialism).
- Neo-Nazi Skinheads.
- Fifth Era.



Patriotism-Survival Ideology

Protection of basic Constitutional freedoms is the major theme of the Patriot-Survivalist groups. It is more so the preservation of the Anglo-Saxon, “American-type culture” which the founders of our nation secured for all whites.

- Racial Survivalist.
- Posse Comitatus.
- Populist.
- Militias.



Militias

- New groups form and others disappear so frequently it is difficult, if not impossible, to track which groups are active at any given moment.
- The character of these groups also may change rapidly as different factions, some extreme with neo-Nazi ties and other moderates, with law abiding goals vie for control.
- In some cases, there are support groups that do not engage in military training or typically have rank structures, but instead provide information and materials to militias.



Tattoos

- Tattoos are frequently associated with racist and/or gang activities.
- Skinheads frequently use tattoos and symbols of lightning bolts, skulls, Nazi swastikas, eagles, and Nordic warriors.
- Skinhead graphics also feature barbed wire, hobnailed boots, and hammers in their symbolism.



Tattoos

- This information being provided is general in nature and is provided as a guide only to assist EORs, EOAs, leaders, and commanders.
- No immediate assumptions should be made when strange or suspicious tattoos are observed.
- However, they may be considered a warning signal something might be worth checking into further.
- When in doubt, consult the Staff Judge Advocate for clarification and guidance.



Command Authority

- Commanders have the authority to prohibit military personnel from engaging in or participating in any other activities the commander determines will adversely affect good order and discipline or morale within the command.
- This includes, but is not limited to, the authority to order the removal of symbols, flags, posters, or other displays from barracks, to place areas or activities off-limits (see AR 190-25)
- Order soldiers not to participate in those activities that are contrary to good order and discipline or morale of the unit or pose a threat to health, safety, and security or military installation.



Command Options

- UCMJ Actions.
- Involuntary Separation
- Reclassification
- Administrative Action



UCMJ Actions

- Article 92 -- Violation or failure to obey a lawful general order or regulation (for example, participation in demonstrations, distributions of literature without approval, or unlawful discrimination).
- Article 116 -- Riot or breach of peace.
- Article 117 -- Provoking speeches or gestures.
- Article 134 -- General article, specifically, conduct which is prejudicial to the good order and discipline or service discrediting.
- Involuntary Separation
- Reclassification
- Administrative Action



Involuntary Separation, Reclassification, and Administrative Action

- Involuntary Separation - for unsatisfactory performance or misconduct, or for conduct deemed prejudicial to good order and discipline or morale.
- Reclassification - or bar to reenlistment actions, as appropriate.
- Administrative Action - Other administrative or disciplinary action deemed appropriate by the commander, based on the specific facts and circumstances of the particular case



Command Responsibilities

- Commanders must take positive actions to educate soldiers.
- Advising soldiers any participation in extremist organizations or activities
- Will be taken into consideration when evaluating their overall duty performance
- Will be taken into consideration when selections for positions of leadership and responsibility are made.
- Will result in removal of security clearances, where appropriate.
- Will result in reclassification actions or bar to reenlistment actions as appropriate.



Commander's Responsibilities

- Understand what their service members positions are.
- Be alert for indicators of extremist ties or behaviors.
- Enforce policies on active participation.
- Educate and counsel service members on understanding of policy.
- Commanders shall deny requests for the use of military controlled facilities by individuals or groups that engage in discriminatory practices involving such practices.
- Commanders should seek legal advise.



Training On Extremist Activities and Organizations

- Each member of your unit should receive training on extremist activities and organizations.
- The Army's Equal Opportunity policy
- Participation may lead to removal of security clearance
- May result in reclassification actions or bar to reenlistment actions
- UCMJ actions may be initiated
- Involuntary separation
- Other administrative or disciplinary action



Conclusion

- Extremism in most any form can have a very serious, and negative impact on unit cohesion and effectiveness.
- Encourage your soldiers to report anyone approaching them on the subject of extremism.
- If you see evidence of this type of behavior or activities, immediately report your concerns to the chain of command.
- Our soldiers have every right to expect the Army to keep this type of activity out of their living and working areas.
- As the unit Equal Opportunity Representative, you have the responsibility to do your absolute best to ensure it does not surface in your units.



Examples of Extremism

The following slides shows pictorial example of Extremist Organizations, Symbols, Tattoos, and indicators of extremist presence.



Extremist

Organizations

Ku Klux Klan

Black Panther
Revival Movement

Nation of Islam

Posse Comitatus

Aryan Nations

NATIONAL ALLIANCE

Identity Church Movement

Yahwehs

John Brown Anti-Klan Committee

Skinheads

Church of Jesus Christ Christian

Symbols

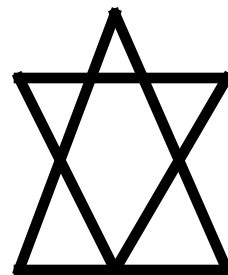


INDICATORS

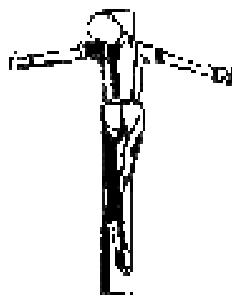
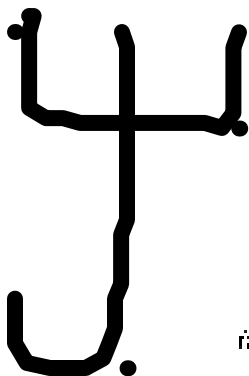
- CLOTHING, JEWELRY
- TATTOOS
- SYMBOLS
- LITERATURE
- MUSIC
- LANGUAGE
- HAIR STYLE



Symbols and Tattoos



311



88

